

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

[0007] In accordance with this first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for pre-selecting a folder for a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders for storing messages. The system comprises: (a) a storage module for storing the plurality of folders; (b) a communication module for receiving and transmitting the current message; (c) a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders; (d) a message comparison module for comparing a comparison criterion, derived from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion of at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and, (e) a folder pre-selection module for pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; (f) a user-interface means for displaying the current message and the pre-selected folder wherein the user-interface means comprises a folder selection module operable by a user, and the folder selection module is operable by the user to allocate the current message to a user selected folder in the plurality of folders; (g) a cache-updating means for updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message, n being a positive integer greater than 1, wherein each message in the up to n previous messages is allocated to an associated

user-selected folder in the plurality of folders; the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and, the cache-updating means is operable, for each message in the up to n messages, to update the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies an associated user-selected folder previously selected for the message.

[0009] In accordance with this second aspect of the present invention, there is provided a system for pre-selecting a folder for a current message. The folder is one of a plurality of folders for storing messages. A method of pre-selecting a folder for storing a current message, the folder being one of a plurality of folders, the method comprising: (a) providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to include an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders, wherein the folder pre-selection cache is configured based on the up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message, where n is a positive integer greater than 1; (b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and, (c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; (d) providing a folder selection function to a user for selecting a user-selected

folder from the plurality of folders for the current message; (e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing the current message; wherein each message in the up to n messages is allocated to an associated user-selected folder in the plurality of folders; the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and, the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies the associated user-selected folder.

[0011] In accordance with this third aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer software product for configuring a computer to pre-select a folder for a current message. The folder is one of a plurality of folders for storing messages. The computer program product comprises a recording medium and means recorded on the recording medium for configuring the computer to perform the steps of: (a) providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to include an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders; (b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and (c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-

selection cache; (d) providing a folder selection function to a user for selecting a user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for the current message; (e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing the current message; wherein each message in the up to n messages is allocated to an associated user-selected folder in the plurality of folders;

the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and, the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies the associated user-selected folder.

[0011.1] In accordance with a fourth aspect of the present invention there is provided an improved system for pre-selecting a folder for a current message. The folder is one of a plurality of folders for storing messages. The system comprises: a storage module for storing the plurality of folders; a communication module for receiving or transmitting the current message; a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders; a message comparison module for comparing a comparison criterion, derived from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion of at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection

cache; and, a folder pre-selection module for pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; a cache-updating means for updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message wherein each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file; the plurality of folders comprises a plurality of file folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files; the folder pre-selection module is operable by the user to select from the plurality of file folders an associated user-selected file folder for an associated attachment file for the current message; the folder pre-selection cache has a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and, the cache-updating means is operable, for each message in the up to n messages, to update the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies an associated user-selected folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.

[0011.2] In accordance with a fifth aspect of the present invention there is provided an improved method for pre-selecting a folder for a current message. The folder is one of a plurality of folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files. The method comprises: providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configured to have an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message, and an associated folder identification for identifying an associated folder in the plurality of folders; for at least one entry in the

folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and, updating the folder pre-selection cache based on up to n previous messages undergoing folder selection prior to the current message wherein each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file; the folder pre-selection cache has a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages; and, the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies an associated user-selected folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.

[0011.3] In accordance with a sixth aspect of the present invention, there is provided a computer software product for configuring a computer to pre-select a folder for a current message. The folder is one of a plurality of folders for storing messages. The computer program product comprises: a recording medium; means recorded on the recording medium for configuring the computer to perform the steps of: (a) providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries, n being a predetermined positive integer greater than one, each configurable entry being configurable to record an associated pre-selection criterion, derived from a message to distinguish the message, for matching with the current message and an associated folder identification for identifying an

associated folder in the plurality of folders; (b) for at least one entry in the folder pre-selection cache, comparing a comparison criterion, obtained from the current message to distinguish the current message, with the associated pre-selection criterion to determine a matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; and, (c) pre-selecting the folder identified by the associated folder identification of the matching entry when the message comparison module determines the matching entry in the folder pre-selection cache; (d) providing a folder selection function to a user for selecting a user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for an associated attachment file for the current message; (e) selecting the user-selected folder from the plurality of folders for storing an associated attachment file for the current message; wherein each message in the up to n previous messages has an associated attachment file; the plurality of folders comprises a plurality of file folders for storing a plurality of potentially attachable files; the folder pre-selection cache includes a corresponding configurable entry for each message in the up to n messages, and, the step of providing a folder pre-selection cache having n configurable entries further comprises, for each message in the up to n messages, updating the folder pre-selection cache by configuring the corresponding configurable entry in the folder pre-selection cache such that the associated pre-selection criterion is derived from the message, and the associated folder identification of the corresponding entry identifies an associated user-selected folder previously selected for the associated attachment file.